

News From U.S. Senator

North Dakota

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DORGAN SAYS GRAND FORKS AND MINOT AIR FORCE BASES SET TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) — U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND) said Thursday that the Air Force decision to increase personnel at the Grand Forks and Minot Air Force Bases is clear evidence of the value of North Dakota air bases in the nation's military defense system.

"Once again, the Air Force is demonstrating the value of North Dakota bases in our strategic defense system," said Dorgan, who serves on the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. "The Air Force, which is realigning resources for maximum potential, is calling for 69 new positions in Grand Forks and 34 new positions in Minot in fiscal year 2001."

At the Grand Forks Air Force Base, the 319th Air Refueling Wing will receive 52 positions as part of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force, 11 positions for KC-125 maintenance and six positions to support Phoenix Raven, which is a specially trained security force dedicated to providing protection for aircrews and resources in high terrorist and criminal threat areas.

The Minot Air Force Base 5th Bomb Wing will receive 31 new positions as part of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force and three civilian positions for other base support.

"It's a tribute to the men and women who serve on these bases and the communities that support them, to see the confidence our military leaders have in their ability to keep our country strong and free," Dorgan said.

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